

## NOTIFICATION

### Call for Nominations for the Informal Advisory Group for Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to invite Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, and relevant organizations and initiatives to nominate scientific and technical experts to serve on the informal advisory group for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs).

In paragraph 11 of decision [XIII/12](#), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity requested the Executive Secretary to establish an informal advisory group for EBSAs. The terms of reference for the informal advisory group were provided in annex III of decision XIII/12 and amended to include additional tasks through decision [14/9](#) (annex III). The first meeting of the informal advisory group was held in Montreal from 30 June to 1 July 2018 (report of the meeting available [here](#)). The second meeting was held virtually on 1 August 2019 (report of the meeting available [here](#)). The third meeting was also held virtually, on 12 and 13 April 2022 (report of the meeting available [here](#)). In paragraph 3 of decision 15/26, the Conference of the Parties decided to extend the term of the informal advisory group.

Based on nominations submitted in response to this notification, the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, will select experts for the informal advisory group on EBSAs, using the following criteria and the need to ensure equitable geographical distribution and gender balance:

- (a) Significant scientific knowledge and experience in the application of the EBSA criteria, including experience demonstrated during the CBD regional workshops to facilitate the description of EBSAs, and knowledge and experience in the application of other relevant compatible and complementary nationally and intergovernmentally agreed scientific criteria;
- (b) Significant scientific knowledge and experience related to developing and applying biogeographic classification systems in marine and coastal areas;
- (c) Significant knowledge and experience in the use of EBSA information to inform research, planning and management; and
- (d) Any other knowledge and experience relevant to the areas of work specified in the terms of reference for the informal advisory group (annex III of decision XIII/12, and annex III of decision 14/9).

The informal advisory group will work through different modalities, including e-mail communications, virtual meetings and periodic in-person meetings, particularly in conjunction with other meetings.

To: CBD National Focal Points, CBD marine and coastal biodiversity focal points, indigenous peoples and local communities, and relevant global and regional organizations/initiatives



Nominations should be submitted in the form of a signed official letter addressed to the Executive Secretary and containing the name and full contact information of the nominated member. Nominations should also include the curriculum vitae (CV) clearly indicating the areas of expertise and experience of the nominee, considering the above selection criteria. The nomination letter and CV should be sent to the Secretariat by e-mail at: [secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int) as soon as possible but no later than **6 April 2023**. In line with decision 14/33, nominees are also required to complete and return the interest disclosure form, available at: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/forms/conflict-interest-form-en.pdf>.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

David Cooper  
Acting Executive Secretary